

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS GROUP

WEEKLY SUMMARY NO. 35

For week ending 30 August 1949

Volume II

The International Week

World attention centered upon the forthcoming Anglo-American financial conversations, the preliminary phase of which opened in Washington last week. Meanwhile the OEEC, still divided over the 1949/50 allocation of ECA aid, proposed a \$120 million increase in Britain's share. As the Chinese prepared to lodge a complaint against the USSR in the GA, the intensification of the Yugoslav-Soviet dispute raised the possibility that this issue too might be referred to the UN.

- o -

Objectives behind China's UN complaint against the USSR. Nationalist China's eleventh hour decision to place a complaint against the USSR on the GA agenda is probably a calculated maneuver to put pressure on both the US and Southeast Asian states to give public support to the tottering Kuomintang. The Chinese decision fits into the pattern of various steps taken by Chiang to make it difficult for the US to write him off, such as (1) clinging tenaciously to Formosa, an essential position in the Asian island fringe which the US wishes to deny to the USSR; and (2) the Pacific Union he recently discussed with Presidents Quirino of the Philippines and Rhee of South Korea.

Last year the Nationalists weighed a UN complaint but abandoned it because of the weak evidence against Moscow. Since then, the conclusion of a Soviet-Manchurian trade agreement has reinforced the charge that the Kremlin violated the Sino-Soviet Treaty of 1945. In any case, Canton feels that it has little to lose at this late stage in lodging a complaint. The Chinese move is almost wholly one of propaganda because the GA itself is powerless to arrest the Communist sweep through China. Chiang is probably making a desperate attempt to induce Washington to reverse its decision virtually to abandon him. The Generalissimo is aware that US opinion is much divided on Chinese policy and hopes to swing it to his side by the presentation of his case against the USSR in the GA. Moreover, if the issue comes to a vote, the US would find it difficult to oppose the Chinese resolution. Besides the US, China hopes to compel such South Asian states as India, Pakistan, Siam and Burma to stand up and be counted. These states too may find it extremely difficult to vote.

- 1 -

35

DOCUMENT NO. _____
NO CHANGE IN CLASS.
 DECLASSIFIED
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S C
NEXT REVIEW DATE: _____
AUTH: LM 70-2
DATE 300179 REVIEWER: 006514

Will the Tito-Kremlin row reach the UN? While both Moscow's note calling for a change in the Belgrade government, and provocative Soviet actions such as the reported deployment of Soviet armor along the Hungarian-Yugoslav frontier, clearly justify recourse to the Security Council, Tito will probably hesitate before taking such a step. Tito understands Stalin's method of waging war as well as any chief of state alive today and may therefore prefer to deal with it in his own way without UN interference, much as a gangster prefers to settle scores privately without the police. Moreover, Tito still regards himself and his supporters as Communists. To avoid any charge of collaboration with the West, he would be reluctant to bring a Communist family quarrel before a Western-oriented organization like the UN, unless compelled to. Furthermore, he is anxious to avoid emphasizing the gravity of the situation to his own people. For the present Tito probably evaluates the Kremlin's menacing gestures primarily as a war of nerves. Until he sees a greater impending threat which at the same time would strengthen his case, or is ready to make a closer approach to the West, Belgrade will be averse to submitting its troubles to the UN.

- 0 -

Probable UN slates. When the GA votes to fill the Security Council seats now occupied by Canada, Argentina and the Ukraine which become vacant next January 1st, India will almost certainly replace Canada as the second Commonwealth state. The Latin-American bloc will have the determining voice in selecting Argentina's successor and at present Ecuador is the leading candidate. However, the desirability of having two such small LA nations as Cuba and Ecuador on the SC may be questioned, in which event, Brazil's candidacy might be presented to the GA. Despite some objections to placing a second member of the Slav bloc on the SC, the Ukraine will probably be succeeded by either Czechoslovakia or Byelorussia. In 1947, before the Czech coup, the late Jan Masaryk felt that occupying a SC seat would embarrass his government, then torn between East and West, but no such problems now beset the Czechoslovakia of Gottwald.

Romulo (P.I.) is the leading candidate for President of the GA. While there is considerable Latin American support for Entezam (Iran), Romulo's election appears almost certain.

- 0 -

Slavs try again to obtain US penicillin extractor. Communist attempts to exploit UN Specialized Agencies for both material purposes and propaganda are vividly shown by satellite activities in the World Health Organization (WHO). The withdrawal early this year of the USSR, Byelorussia and the Ukraine was no doubt motivated by a multiplicity of reasons, including the conviction that it would be futile to expect to continue milking the organization of medical supplies and equipment. The Slavs are particularly anxious to get a few Podbielnak penicillin extractors (made only by a US firm), which can readily be converted for bacteriological warfare. The

- 2 -

~~SECRET~~

remaining three Iron Curtain countries, with invincible insolence, privately told the WHO Director that they would be willing to remain WHO members if they could receive six Podbielnak machines. They made no progress with this blackmail. Meanwhile, the US has expressed its willingness to supply other kinds of penicillin machines but continues to refuse export licenses to Iron Curtain countries for the Podbielnak type. In addition, it is taking steps to see that machines already shipped to other European countries do not fall into the hands of the satellites.

Propaganda-wise, the Satellites have taken advantage of the situation by accusing the US of causing or increasing death and disease in Eastern Europe by withholding much-needed medical supplies, equipment and knowledge of scientific information and techniques. The acme was attained in a recent article by the Polish Deputy Minister of Health, charging that the US was transforming the most modern medical instruments and achievements into weapons of war, an obvious reference to the Podbielnak machine. The Satellites as well as the USSR will continue to try by every means to obtain this equipment.

- o -

South West Africa question in the 4th GA. After three previous failures to effect a solution, apparently the only course left open to the GA is to seek an advisory opinion from the International Court on the responsibilities of the Union of South Africa toward South West Africa under the Mandate and the UN Charter. The status of South West Africa is not clear; conflicting opinions are held regarding certain legal aspects of the question, and the Union Government has made it very definite that it refuses to accept even limited international responsibility for South West Africa. Since the assembly's three previous resolutions on the territory are still in effect, it seems unlikely that the GA will again recommend that the territory be placed under trusteeship or will again request that annual information on the territory be supplied to the UN.

- o -

WFTU trade department plans. WFTU strategy apparently contemplates locating the headquarters of most of its new "trade departments" in Western Europe when they can exert more direct pressure on labor affairs in non-Communist countries without appearing to be under the thumb of Moscow. Thus, the headquarters of the new metal workers department is to be in Turin, textile workers in Lyon, seamen and longshoremen in Marseilles, and the miners reportedly in Brussels. These trade departments will probably play a large role in any major strikes in Western Europe this autumn.

- 3 -